



VOLUME 1, ISSUE 1

UP TO SPEED

WWW.CONNECTINGALABAMA.GOV

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CONNECTINGALABAMA STAFF ANNOUNCED REGIONAL COORDINATORS ASSIGNED

*As the groundwork has now been established by Governor Riley's Broadband Initiative, ADECA is moving forward with its newest department: **ConnectingALABAMA**. We would like to introduce you to the full-time staff that has been hired to coordinate the regions throughout the state and provide one-on-one assistance in implementing the program to bring affordable, reliable broadband to all areas of the state.*

Jessica Dent – Executive Director: A 10-year employee of ADECA, Jessica's dedication to the state and history of accomplishing her goals, allow her to be the ideal person heading up ConnectingALABAMA. Already a familiar face to so many involved in this initiative, Jessica has an unequalled drive to see Alabama excel in its quest to bring broadband access to the entire state. Her door is open for suggestions and inquiries.

Nichole D'Andrea – Statewide Coordinator and Outreach Manager: With a passion for Alabama and a drive to make a difference in rural communities, Nichole chose to earn her Master's Degree in Economic Development. Following graduation, she worked as a Community Developer for nearly four years in southwest Alabama. Nichole's experience and education in planning and commu-

nity development, as well as being a nationally certified IT specialist, are a perfect fit for Connecting ALABAMA.

Horace Lamar – Regional Coordinator: A career educator, Horace recently retired as the dean of the School of Music at Alabama State University. Because of his background in education, he recognizes the positive implications that broadband connectivity can bring to the education arena. In addition to coordinating the activities of Regions 9, 10, and 11, Horace serves as the intern supervisor.

Chelese Beck – Regional Coordinator: A 20-year veteran of the publishing industry, Chelese holds a Bachelor's degree in Sociology, but she also has an extensive nonprofit background. With experience in Web site design and Internet communications, she understands the need for broadband. Aside from her commitment to Regions 1, 3, and 8, she will be designing Connecting ALABAMA's "Up to Speed" monthly newsletter and providing Web site support.

Jennifer Felder – Regional Coordinator: Jennifer comes to us with experience as a Quality Assurance Analyst for the Federal Service Desk. With a Bachelor's in Business Re-

source Management, she is currently working toward obtaining her Master's in Business Administration. Jennifer's analytical experience as a Sales and Marketing Analyst in the Beverage Industry, along with her hands-on skills and education, will assist in bringing affordable broadband access to Regions 4, 6, and 12, which she is excited to represent.

Josh Phillips – Regional Coordinator: An Alabama boy through and through, Josh was raised on technology and has always made it a part of both his professional and personal life. After graduating from Troy University with a Bachelor's in Political Science, he worked in varying capacities for multiple political campaigns. Josh's small-town background will provide a valuable perspective to ConnectingALABAMA and those he serves in Regions 2, 5, and 7.

In upcoming months, the Regional Coordinators will be in contact with those in their assigned regions to introduce themselves, determine the status of current projects and schedule meetings with service providers, government officials, consumers, and the like.

Page 2: State chart of assigned regions, including counties, and also the Web addresses for the Regional Council partners.

REGIONAL COORDINATOR ASSIGNMENTS



Partnering with Regional Councils

Region 1: NACOLG	Region 7: SEARPDC
Region 2: WARC	Region 8: SARPC
Region 3: RPCGB	Region 9: CARPDC
Region 4: EARPDC	Region 10: LRCOG
Region 5: SCADC	Region 11: NARCOG
Region 6: ATRC	Region 12: TARCOG

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Region 9

- > Autauga
- > Elmore
- > Montgomery

Region 10

- > Lee
- > Russell

Region 11

- > Cullman
- > Lawrence
- > Morgan

Jennifer Felder

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Region 4

- > Calhoun
- > Chambers
- > Cherokee
- > Cleburne
- > Clay
- > Coosa
- > Etowah
- > Randolph
- > Talladega
- > Tallapoosa

Region 6

- > Choctaw
- > Clarke
- > Conecuh
- > Dallas
- > Marengo
- > Monroe
- > Perry
- > Sumter
- > Washington
- > Wilcox

Region 12

- > DeKalb
- > Jackson
- > Limestone
- > Madison

Chelese Beck

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Region 1

- > Colbert
- > Franklin
- > Lauderdale
- > Marion
- > Winston

Region 3

- > Blount
- > Chilton
- > Jefferson
- > Saint Clair
- > Shelby
- > Walker

Region 8

- > Baldwin
- > Escambia
- > Mobile

Josh Phillips

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Region 2

- > Bibb
- > Fayette
- > Greene
- > Hale
- > Lamar
- > Pickens
- > Tuscaloosa

Region 5

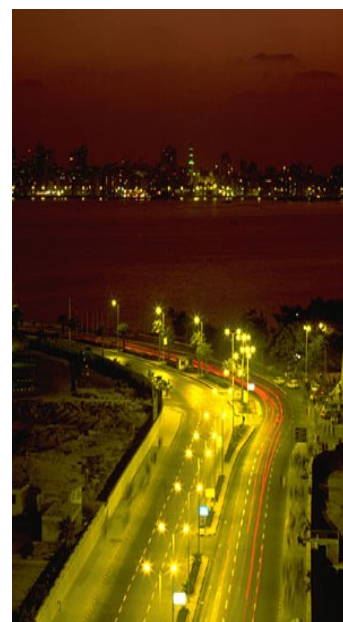
- > Bullock
- > Butler
- > Crenshaw
- > Lowndes
- > Macon
- > Pike

Region 7

- > Coffee
- > Covington
- > Dale
- > Henry
- > Houston
- > Geneva
- > Barbour

REGIONAL COORDINATOR RESPONSIBILITIES

- Independently test broadband speeds at various locations to validate provider claims
- Identify and contact anchor institutions to document broadband availability
- Support the development of applications for future infrastructure and sustainability grant funding
- Promote broadband awareness and use among businesses—creating jobs and improving competitive advantage
- Recruit stakeholders to form regional broadband adoption teams
- Use teams to identify the most effective ways to increase broadband use by both consumers and businesses
- Pursue grant funding opportunities to expand local broadband infrastructure
- Promote availability of infra-structure maps for planning and regional policy initiatives



ALABAMA BROADBAND GRANTS ANNOUNCED

Type	Amount	Grantee
Public Computer Centers	\$1,380,513	Deaf Action Center of Louisiana
Sustainable Adoption	\$28,519,482	One Economy Corporation
Infrastructure	\$62,540,162	University Corporation for Advanced Internet Development
Sustainable Adoption	\$14,988,657	Communication Service for the Deaf, Inc.
Infrastructure	\$21,286,914	Appalachian Valley Fiber Network
Public Computer Centers	\$461,539	Boat People SOS, Inc.
Infrastructure	\$26,068,284	Troy Cablevision, Inc.
Infrastructure	\$59,258,545	Trillion Communications, Inc.
Infrastructure	\$6,269,197	JKM Consulting, Inc.
Broadband Data & Development	\$1,896,323	Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs
Public Computer Centers	\$4,636,354	Auburn University
Sustainable Adoption	\$1,181,348	Alabama Department of Economic & Community Affairs

Table Provided by www.BroadbandUSA.gov

EXTERNAL HIGH-TECH ARTICLES

[US vs. Internet Speeds Around the World](#)

[Broadband Revolution — Download ebook from Motorola](#)

[Broadband Scout — Strategy for impartial industry data](#)

[Google and Verizon War over Internet Future and Net Neutrality](#)

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bringing Alabama up to speed!

Get Involved!

We need YOUR feedback!

This success of this initiative is directly influenced by consumers utilizing the tools provided through **ConnectingALABAMA!**

Please visit the Web site and view the [VIDEOS](#) to learn more about how broadband access directly affects your community.

Then provide [FEEDBACK](#) so we can collect the necessary data to bring Alabama ***Up to Speed!***

BRINGING YOU “UP TO SPEED”

Since the Alabama Broadband Initiative was approved in 2008, many crucial milestones have already been accomplished , and it is time to bring everyone Up to Speed!

- Interactive Web site developed for both broadband and dial-up access
- Unserved and Underserved broadband areas identified and mapped
- Internet Service Providers identified and contacted for area feedback
- Public interaction initiated to introduce the purpose of ConnectingALABAMA
- Feedback established to identify positive and negative aspects of current access
- Region 9 Kickoff and open forums generate interest and set stage for other regions
- ConnectingALABAMA staff hired to coordinate with regional councils to implement initia-



CHECK THE WEB SITE FOR UPCOMING PUBLIC FORUMS & PLANNING MEETINGS!

Region 1 Kickoff Meeting	Oct. 8, 2010	1 pm	PHIL CAMPBELL — Northwest-Shoals Community College – Hospitality Center
Region 11 Kickoff Meeting	Nov 4, 2010	TBA	DECATUR — Turner-Surles Resource Center